



Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs



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Office of Justice Programs
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ANNOUNCES \$200,000 AWARD TO MODESTO, CA TO SUPPORT ANTI-CRIME COMMUNITY EFFORT

WASHINGTON – Assistant Attorney General Regina B. Schofield recently announced a \$200,000 grant award to the Stanislaus Community Foundation for continuing support of the Modesto, California Weed and Seed site designed to fight crime and restore community infrastructure.

The funding is administered by the Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO), a component of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP).

"This funding helps rebuild and restructure communities that have suffered because of criminal activity and social decay," Schofield said. "These strategies encourage residents to work with law enforcement agencies to deter crime, identify resources, and restore community cohesiveness."

Weed and Seed is a strategy designed to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity in targeted high-crime neighborhoods and bring in services that promote crime prevention and neighborhood revitalization.

The partnerships formed in Weed and Seed strategies include organizing and forming alliances with local businesses, faith based organizations and other local or state organizations to identify and resolve specific criminal activity and replace it with other activities that include restoring buildings, providing youth activities, and establishing new economic opportunities.

The plans and strategies for these sites include coordinating with federal, state, county and local prosecutors to reduce drug-related crimes, gang violence, and property crimes; fostering joint responsibility and action between police and community residents; and improving the network between city agencies and community groups.

CCDO supports local sites through its four-pronged Weed and Seed strategy, which include: law enforcement; community policing; prevention, intervention and treatment for residents; and neighborhood restoration. There are currently more than 250 Weed and Seed communities throughout the country.

(more)

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP), headed by an Assistant Attorney General, provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer

justice, and assist victims. OJP has five component bureaus: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; and the Office for Victims of Crime. Additionally, OJP has two program offices: the Community Capacity Development Office, which incorporates the Weed and Seed strategy and OJP's American Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Desk, and the Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking (SMART) Office. More information can be found at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov>.

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